

Memorandum

Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services

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Date: Feb 24, 2004

To: County DD Coordinators

From: Michael Linak, Interim Director
Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services

Subject: **RELEASE: INTERIM WAIVERS MANUAL –BDDS Waivers only**

In late December, 2003, the Division of Disability and Elder Services (DDES) received approvals from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), renewing the Community Integration Program 1 (CIP 1A/B) and the Brain Injury Waivers. We also received CMS approval for three new waivers serving children, collectively called the Children's Long Term Support Waivers (CLTS), which allows the implementation of the long-awaited Children's Redesign initiative. These five Medicaid Home and Community-based (HCB) Waivers, as well as language incorporating conditions from the now discontinued CSLA Waiver, required a number of major changes to our current waivers.

Because the changes made to the Waivers became effective on January 1, 2004, we wanted to release a Manual as quickly as possible. We know that counties will want to begin taking advantage of the new opportunities associated with the revised Waivers and need the instructions and definitions to accomplish this. Specific changes include: the addition of new services and major revisions to current services covered by the waivers; new policies and requirements that respond to federally required and recommended changes to the way we operate our waivers; and other changes resulting from our operational experience working with counties.

These Manual materials only cover the waivers administered by BDDS. They are effective as of January 1, 2004 and replace those chapters in the former Medicaid Waivers Manual identified in the table of contents (attached) with new materials. The Manual may now be downloaded from the web at: dhfs.wisconsin.gov/bdds/waivermanual. Please note that some chapters of the former Manual remain in effect, but will be revised sometime later this year. While the former chapters are somewhat out of date, we think you will be able to work with this limitation. We also want to note that this release uses a slightly different structure than the materials that were handed out at recent training sessions. This is because references to COP-W and CIP-II were omitted. This separate Manual should be considered an interim document, and efforts to produce a combined/comprehensive Manual are continuing.

In contrast to our usual practice, we have not included a summary of changes to each Chapter and Section in this cover memo. We intend to produce such a document and share it with you as soon as possible, in the context of up-coming training and consultation sessions with counties. We did this to get

you the actual Manual materials as quickly as possible. We have used the new Table of Contents to indicate which portions of the old Manual are still in effect and to briefly describe the chapters to follow. Please share this information with the appropriate staff in your county including any staff who will be implementing the new Children's Waivers. BDDS will supply each county with one printed copy of this manual. Please note that this Manual is not available in printed format from document sales.

We expect there will be a strong need for training and orientation to these materials. Please contact your assigned Community Integration Specialist to arrange for such assistance.

cc: Julie Bryda
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Community Integration Specialists
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